## TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office

May 5, 1999 LB 870

have problems with orphan sites, with people who are bankrupt or who may not be bankrupt but cannot handle the expenses of a major spill, or maybe you want to protect those people from expenses of a major spill through some kind of additional provisions, essentially, an insurance kind of policy against catastrophic kinds of environmental endangerments, that can be done through this kind of self-insurance fund and I think something that should be done. I would hope that you would consider it. But, by that mechanism, ultimately, you could have money in place to take care of, hopefully, the very few situations that would arise, stop contributing to the fund, rely upon interest to continue to supply it, use that to alleviate pressures on producers who may have an accident or two along the way and, at the same time, protect the environment. So that's the other mechanism, that's part of the mechanism provided by this kind of a fee system. I'm certainly glad that I provoked Senator Dickey to stand up and make his maiden speech, Senator. Very good, and your comments, along with other comments, Senator Bromm's comments especially, I hope I'm sensitive to all of those things. So, with that, I think I've said the things that I would like to say for now. I would like to do more research on what other states are doing and follow up on the research that Senator Schrock has suggested, and either maybe come back to you with a more refined thought or maybe this is something we can't and shouldn't do this year. But, least I'm persuaded otherwise, I continue to believe that the regulated industries should be at least partially responsible, that that is good public policy, and that the agricultural industry shouldn't be significantly different from industries in that regard. So, with that, I'll withdraw the amendment, Mr. Lieutenant Governor.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: The amendment is withdrawn.

CLERK: Mr. President, I have nothing further on the bill at this time.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Discussion on the committee amendments, Senator Baker.

SENATOR BAKER: I actually was going to speak on AM1623, but I was using it as a forum to point out that, and this is not being